

# **Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education**

## **Bylaws**

*(Amended June 18, 2006)*

### **Article I**

#### **Name and Purpose**

1. The name of this group shall be "Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education" and referred throughout the bylaws as the "Coalition." The full title shall be used in all public references to the Coalition. The American Psychological Association is a not-for-profit, tax exempt corporation and the Coalition, as a part of the Center for Psychology in Schools and Education (CPSE) within the APA Education Directorate, shall act consistently with the exempt purposes of the Association.
2. The Coalition, sponsored by the APA Education Directorate, is devoted to improving the quality of PK-12 education through the application of psychological science. The Coalition strives to promote cooperation among APA groups, committees and divisions and various interest groups and affiliates who are working to enhance education and teacher training for children and adolescents. To this end, the Coalition has included, but has not been limited to representatives from the following 14 divisions: 5 (Evaluation, Measurement and Statistics), 7 (Developmental Psychology), 12 (Society of Clinical Psychology), 13 (Consulting Psychology), 15 (Educational Psychology), 16 (School Psychology), 17 (Society of Counseling Psychology), 25 (Behavior Analysis), 27 (Society for Community Research and Action), 35 (Society for the Psychology of Women), 37 (Child, Youth and Family Services), 43 (Family Psychology), 53 (Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology), and 44 (Society for the Psychological Study of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Issues) and affiliated groups, including, but not limited to Psychology Teachers at the Community Colleges (PTACC), Committee of Teachers of Psychology at Secondary Schools (TOPSS), Council of Representatives' Child and Adolescent Caucus (CAC), Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), Committee on Psychological Testing and Assessment (CPTA), Committee on Children, Youth and Families (CYF), APA Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA) and APA Board of Educational Affairs (BEA).
3. The scope of activities shall include, but not be limited to:
  - (a) Continuing to define and promote the science and practice of psychology as a fundamental part of education in a manner consistent with the Mission, Bylaws and Rules of APA;

- (b) Bringing together psychologists that specialize or have an interest in the application of psychology as a science to educational activities and settings in a collegial and spontaneous atmosphere;
  - (c) Promoting training, research and support services for educators that integrates the science and practice of psychology in promoting PK-12 development;
  - (d) Promoting psychology within the field of education and providing leadership in all issues pertaining to the fundamental role psychology plays in educational activities and settings;
  - (e) Promoting psychology in the public sphere in coordination with APA's Public Policy Office<sup>1</sup>;
  - (f) Supporting, encouraging, and promoting linkages between the Coalition and members of other related specialties within the American Psychological Association and other related professional organizations;
  - (g) Developing and sponsoring programs related to psychology's application within educational activities and settings at APA conventions and other national and regional conventions, conferences and meetings;
  - (h) Developing and making available resources to assist with training and education, research, and practice in psychology's application to education;
4. The Coalition shall not knowingly establish policies that are in direct conflict with the policies of the APA Education Directorate or the APA. The Coalition is accountable to the governing board of the APA Education Directorate and shall operate in a manner that is consistent with the APA Bylaws and Rules.

## **Article II**

### **Membership**

1. The membership of the Coalition shall consist of two categories: Representative and Affiliate.
2. Representatives: elected or appointed representative of an APA group, committee or division, or education organization. Coalition Representatives shall be entitled to all other rights and privileges of the Coalition; that is, all Coalition Representatives may hold Coalition offices, may serve on workgroups, and are eligible to vote in Coalition elections. Workgroup chairs are appointed by the Coalition Chair, and must be a Coalition Representative.

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<sup>1</sup> This amendment is at the request of the APA Office of the General Counsel.

3. Coalition affiliates<sup>2</sup> are individuals interested in issues related to psychology in education. These individuals are invited to serve as affiliates by being a part of the Coalition Listserv. In addition, Coalition affiliates can serve as members of workgroups and be included in conference presentations because their expertise warrants inclusion. Coalition affiliates may also attend biannual meetings if their respective Representative is unable to attend.

### **Article III**

#### **Officers**

1. The officers of the Coalition shall be a Chair and a Chair-Elect. The term of office of the Chair shall be two years. The term of office will run from the end of the winter business meeting of the Coalition until two years later.
2. The term of office of the Chair-Elect shall be one year. The term of the office of the Chair-Elect will run from the end of the first term of the Chair until one year later.
3. The two elected officers and two members of the CPSE staff will work with the Coalition to organize and advance the Coalition activities described in Article III, Section 4.
4. The Chair shall be the individual who has served as Chair-Elect. The Chair's responsibilities shall include but not be limited to the following tasks:
  - (a) Maintaining communication and cooperation with the CPSE staff and the APA Education Directorate;
  - (b) Planning and chairing the biannual business meetings of the Coalition;
  - (c) Submitting mid-year and year-end reports and other required documents to the CPSE staff;
  - (d) Coordinating the development of formal proposals for programming at the APA annual convention on issues of timely concern to psychologists interested in applying their work in educational activities and settings;
  - (e) Ensuring the Coalition responds to initiatives as directed by the Chair, CPSE staff, or as agreed upon by the Coalition Representatives;
  - (f) Encouraging the Coalition to initiate projects, and coordinating the success of projects that address the ways that psychology can be applied effectively in school settings;

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<sup>2</sup> *APA Affiliates* refer to other organizations whose general purposes fall within the scope of Article I of the 2006 APA Bylaws.

- (g) Appointing working groups comprised of group, committee and division representatives to address issues and engage in projects on behalf of the Coalition;
  - (h) Ensuring that regular newsletter columns and/or other communications tools keep APA group, committee and division members informed of Coalition activities;
  - (i) Coordinating activities with chairs of relevant groups or committees to promote the interests of psychology in educational activities and settings.
5. The Chair-Elect shall perform all duties as assigned by the Chair. In the event that the Chair shall not serve the full term of office, the Chair Elect shall succeed to the unexpired remainder thereof and continue to serve through the next full term.

#### **Article IV**

##### **Committees**

1. The Chair shall appoint working group chairs as may be needed to conduct the affairs of the Coalition.
2. Working group chairs will report on the activities of their working group at the biannual meetings of the Coalition.

#### **Article V**

##### **Meetings**

1. The Coalition shall hold biannual meetings in the winter and spring. The Representatives attending the biannual meetings will constitute a quorum. The agenda for the meeting will be set by the Chair with due regard for member input and will be distributed via the Coalition Listserv prior to the meeting; members not attending the meeting may forward to the Chair their comments on any agenda items and these comments may be shared by the Chair with members present at the meeting.
2. Business at the biannual meetings will be conducted in a collegial manner and decisions other than elections and bylaws changes (which are detailed in these Bylaws) will be accomplished through a process of consensus by voting members and affiliates. If consensus cannot be reached, the Chair may take a vote of Representatives in attendance and a simple majority will rule. Occasionally, business decisions may be referred by the Chair to a mail ballot of the entire Representative membership. In such situations a simple majority of those responding to the ballot will determine the course to be taken.

#### **Article VI**

## **Nominations and Elections**

1. The Chair-Elect shall be elected by a plurality ballot vote of all email ballots cast by all Representatives in good standing.
2. It shall be the duty of the CPSE staff to conduct and supervise the elections of the Coalition.
3. The following schedules of terms of office shall govern the call for nominations and election:
  - (a) Chair-Elect: to serve a term of one year, followed by a term of two years as Chair.
4. CPSE staff shall certify a list of names of persons who are nominated to serve as Chair, secure permission of the candidates to be placed on the ballot, and prepare a ballot for voting membership. All nominees must be Representative Members of the Coalition. All nominations shall stand for election.
5. The election results shall be reported by the CPSE staff to all group, committee and division representatives via the Coalition Listserv at least one month prior to the spring biannual business meeting.

## **Article VII**

### **Amendments**

1. These Bylaws may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the voting Representatives on a ballot. Proposals to amend these Bylaws may be introduced to the Chair who will determine whether to put the proposal on an upcoming business meeting agenda or on a ballot. The balloting shall close not less than one month after the ballot mailing or publication of the proposed amendment.